

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

8 February 1952

SUBJECT: Report of [redacted]

TO : Chief, ZACactus

INFO: Chief, ZACactus
Washington, D.C.

ATTN : [redacted]

ATTN: [redacted]

1. We have always known that KMAHOOs were prolific letter writers, but their lack of a sense of security and their success at establishing lines of communication never cease to astound [redacted]. The KMAHOOs within HTNEIGH will always continue to write letters in spite of any measures we may take to discourage the practice. They will also seek out one another regardless of how deeply we may bury them in rock crevices for security reasons. Having done so, they will throw security to the winds and letters will fly like snowflakes.

2. Under separate cover, [redacted] is forwarding a translation of a letter written to a member of the HTNEIGH from TPROACH by [redacted] on 26 January 1952. While it is true that [redacted]'s letter contains much intelligence information, [redacted] has no assurance that it isn't known to the TPROACHs and the KMULCERS. [redacted] is much more concerned about the report which accompanied [redacted]'s intelligence information. In it he gives a complete history of his activities from the time he was dropped in KMAHOO in November 1950. The tragic part is that he mentions the names of people within KMAHOO who befriended him, which is tantamount to signing their death warrants if the information has fallen into the wrong hands. [redacted] proposes to use this letter as another example of the danger involved in HTNEIGH's complete disregard of security. Its effect will probably not change their habits.

3. In reading [redacted]'s report, [redacted] is struck with the utter stupidity of the team leader's actions, which seem to be in complete disregard of [redacted]'s instructions. It is difficult to understand what [redacted] thought he could accomplish by leading an army of twenty men into KMAHOO after having taken refuge on the TPROACH border. Nevertheless, he did it and, as the reader can well realize, he is now a hero in the hearts of his HTNEIGH compatriots.

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4. When [] sees [] in SGCIDER he will discuss this matter at great length, since [] may have some ideas about what he would like HTNEIGH leaders to write to [] if they are going to carry on a correspondence.

APPROVED: Chief of Station

Encl: 2 copies each addressee under separate cover

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REPORT OF HALIL NERGUTI

The preparations and training done so hurriedly, in thirteen days, were not at all sufficient to fulfill a special mission. The ammunitions for the machine guns and revolvers were few. On account of the hurried time they did not even give us maps we would have used if the radio did not work.

We were dropped on the 11th November 1950 at one o'clock. Instead of dropping us in the fixed point: "FUSHA e DEGES" next to TROPOJA, the pilot by mistake dropped us ten kilometers further from this point, in the forest of the village ZARISH-QARR. We had received instructions that as soon as we landed we had to signal to the pilot in order that he threw the material. But the pilot did not wait for the signals and threw the material in the darkness, without our knowing where it had fallen. The ammunition fell in the middle of the village ZARISH. We looked for it in vain. On the next day the material was caught by the forces of the security and the frontier guards. On the 12th November all the people of the village were mobilized and with the forces of the security at their head, entered in the forest, to control it; happily all the forces went in the direction of the forest of TROPOJA, and we were three hours far from that place, approaching a kilometer near to KRUMA. We remained three days circled between KRUMA and VLAHEN. Our rescuer was a young boy of seventeen, who we did not know, ISLAM LIMANI from the village NIKOLIC, whose brother was shot three months after.

From there we arrived in the village KISHAJ to our friend SELIM CAHANI of whom we took all the informations concerning the forces of the security of KUKES. We remained fifteen days, always supplied by him and through him we contacted many people.

Then we went to the village DOMEJ HAS to our friend ADEM RUSHITI who gave us enough information for what we had asked. We remained in the forest of DOMEJ, our suppliers were three youngsters called BAJRAM QAZIMI, FAZLI NEXHIJA, UK BINA; two of them carried arms and had permits for them and were supposed to be faithful to the service of the security; they welcomed us with open arms because at this time as we were quite new our propaganda was in our favor.

From DOMEJ we went to LUMA, there we went to PODBREG to our friend ISUF MYFTAR HALLIACI; from there to HALIM REXHEPI and GAFUR LIMANI both of the village GJEGJEN. Then to the village BARDHOC to our friends AHMET ISLAMI, SULEJMAN HISENU, AVDI LACI, ALI LACI; most of them have positions in the government.

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The payments done by the government to the people to survey the villages, winter which found us unprepared, and the misfortune that at that time were caught two of our comrades who were dropped with us: SELIM DACI, ILJAZ TOPTANI, led us to be discovered and as the forces were on our traces, our friends watched; we were obliged to cross the border.

In contact with HYSEN NERGUTI he assured us next to some important friends as RAMADAN VOKA, HYSEN MUJA, AHMET NIKA, but in this place we were discovered by an emigree called NUHI ZYLFI MALIQI. This person told the forces of the security of the Yugoslav police, and we decided with sixteen other comrades to enter again in Albania. We bought fifteen weapons, a machine gun which cost us twenty gold Napoleons, and on the 17th February 51 at twenty hours, we left PRIZREN with sixteen new comrades and four of our team, which made a total of twenty people. We took the direction of the village TREBETIC, two hours in the north of PRIZREN; there we remained two days, and on the 20th February 51, a spy discovered us and warned the police. We were divided in two groups at seven hundred meters far from one another. Thirteen of us were circled and seven out of this circle. The fight took place at fourteen hours, and went on until 19 hours. At 19h both groups made the last assault, and we were safe. We headed towards Albania; during our journey we were shot seven times by the forces who had circled us: at TREBETIC, VLASHEN, ZHUR, in the dairy farm of ZHUR, between BILLUSHA and ZHUR, next to RESNEC, and on the border line of LIKENI KUQ.

At two o'clock we crossed the border at KORITNIK, and came out in the dairy farm of BARDHOC; there we spent the night. At noon we started fighting the Albanian Army which had heard the shooting which had taken place, and who came out with two battalions of the security and frontier police. We held the fight until the evening without having any losses, we had very good positions, and the snow gave trouble to the assaults of the army. At night we went down to the villages BARDHOC and QJEGJEN, where we took provisions by force. We arrived at PERDBREG to our friend ISUF MYFTAR HALLACI who gave us tow hundred kilos of maize. That night we had three meetings with non important patrols. Then we crossed the river LIJUMA and entered the mountains of GALLIQEC, and settled a little base.

As the supplies for twenty people at the time was difficult and there was a danger of being discovered, we decided to divide ourselves in four groups: HALIL NERGUTI with four comrades for LIJUMA; REKH BERISHA with four comrades for LIJUMA-NAHIJE as well as KATA-SHISHTIVEC; RAMADAN GRNE: TEJDRINK-MARDIT; MYFTAR PLANEA for HAS. Every fortnight all had to meet in SASATIN e GALLIQES.

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On the 24th March 51, we fixed a meeting with the group of REXHA in the village SHTIQEN. REXHA with his group arrived three days before the fixed delay and was supplied by KASEM RIZVANI from SHTIQEN. On the other hand this man warned the security that in the place between the villages REXHEPE and MUJE will come some people to take five kilos of flour and a goat, and giving the name of the person to whom money had been given in advance. We sent RRAHIM ILLAZ SHEHU and ZEJNEL AHMET GJUTA both from the village of SHTIQEN with the mail for the group of REXHA fixing to the first of April for a meeting with all the groups in SASAT. The security had taken all the positions in this place. ZEJNEL and RAHIM knew nothing about it; when the group of REXHA approached, three minutes before falling in the trap, the first shots were directed against RAHIM and ZEJNEL; at this moment the group of REXHA answered the fire. RAHIM was killed. ZEJNEL killed a lieutenant and two soldiers. On the other side the group of REXHA killed three graduates and a sergeant major and five soldiers. After an hour ZEJNEL was killed. A big operation took place after the fight. The security knew that NERGUTI had a big group. Our teams were scattered in different directions. The security did not know from where to start. RAMADAN CENE and his group left for MIRBIT, when they came in the neighborhood of KRUJA, a comrade of their group fell very sick; this was HYSSEN VAKA, from SHTIQEN. His other comrades decided to remain next to one of their friends, and fixed the date for RAMADAN to come and fetch them. The two comrades who accompanied the ill man made indirect contacts with the security in order to put in a trap RAMADAN CENE and his comrades. They gave up the ill man of whom we have no notice until now. The two other comrades were dressed up in military uniforms and sent on the traces of RAMADAN and his group. While they were on the traces of RAMADAN, and not in the fixed place for the appointment, RAMADAN understood he was betrayed and went to SURRAJ. He then continued to roam in the mountains for three months always fighting and specially looking for the traitors. After a certain period of time he learnt that HYSSEN and his two comrades had been judged and condemned.

After so long months of activity without means, without any sign from the center, not even a bullet, the friends to whom we went were very demoralized cause they saw no signs of help. We had fourteen killed and another winter came. Inspite of this we are expecting Spring and will go on with our fight, hoping that this time you will give us some sign of life.

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THESE INFORMATIONS CAME ALSO IN NERGUTI'S REPORT

In Albania the armed forces are of three divisions:

Division I: with the military staff in Tirana
Division V: with a military staff in GJINOCASTER
Division IX: with its military staff in KORCHA

After those divisions called Divisions of Assault, there is another division called Autonom Division, with its military staff in SCUTARI, which works in the radius of: SCUTARI, KUQES, DIBER, ELBASAN; all this is for the security of the Yugoslav frontier.

There is a brigade called Coastal Brigade which works in the radius of DURAZZO, SANTI QUARANTA, SAN GIOVANNI DO MEDUA, VALONA.

K U K E S

In FUSHEN e KOLSHIT are very beautiful caserns where there is a military regiment; there are also three hundred reservist soldiers of two months service. These three hundred are always there for military works and for the trenches/

The Commander of this regiment is BULNAS BEQIRI, from VALONA. The Commissar is NUREDIN LUSHA, from POGRADEC (KORCHA).

This regiment has three infantry battalions and one group of artillery, three autonom regimental platoons of each arm: One team of liaison, one of enquiry, and an automatic platoon. This composition goes with each battalion.

They have eight Russian canon calib. 75/13 mm.

Mortars, Russian type: 75 mm.

Tchek machine guns, anti-aircraft 86 in this regiment with a range of three kilometers.

The artillery group has two hundred and fifty horses and mules. The steady anti-aircraft positions are the following:

1/ In KODRA e MYCIT, next to URES DRINIT ZI, KUKES, with twenty soldiers.

2/ In KODRA e DEMIROLLIT, above BRUT, where there is always a platoon of soldiers.

3/ In RRUNEN e MALZIUT, with a platoon of soldiers; this regiment assures the lines of the frontier posts.

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KRUME - HAS

In KRUME there is the military staff of the company of the frontier. Each post has twenty five soldiers besides the graduates.

1. KRUME: 25 soldiers
2. VLAHEN: 25 soldiers
3. DOBRUN: 25 soldiers
4. ZOGE: 25 soldiers
5. LLESH: 25 soldiers
6. POGAJ: 25 soldiers

In KHUME there is a police station with fourteen policemen. There is also the command of the security composed of five officers. There are also civil agents who are always moving in the different villages.

FRONTIER STATIONS IN LLUMA

1. In MORIN there are three stations with twenty five soldiers in each post; one is on the principal frontier line; one in the house of SHAQIR ISMAILI; one in the house of ISTREF SHEMES in BARDHOC. The staff is in the house of RAMAN BEQIRI in BARDHOC.

2. There are also other stations: in the house of SULEJMAN HYSENI in BARDHOC; in the house of IBISH VELIS HALAC in PERDBREG; in the house of MULLA RASIMI in ZAPOD with twenty five soldiers; in the old station in PAKISH with twenty five soldiers; in BORE, twenty five soldiers. The staff of the frontier company is in NOVOSEJ in the house of ISMEN BILLALLI composed of a personnel of fourty men.

3. In SHISHTIVEC there are soldiers and police about seventy for the principal line of the frontier; MUZMADHE, FSHAT, QAJ. The staff is in KALAJA DODES. Each of these stations has from twenty five to thirty five soldiers according to the place and movements on the frontier. This regiment has done all the trenches, silent fortifications in the direction of the frontier.

ALL THE ABOVE MENTIONED FORMS THE AUTONOM REGIMENT OF KUKES.

Besides this regiment there is also a special brigade. The staff of this brigade is in BICAJ. The commander is a major operating under a false name. This brigade goes everywhere and its duty is to oppress all movements that may occur. It is at the disposal of the security of KUKES. They have requisitioned fourteen houses, two mosques, and the former building of the sub-prefecture. The brigade is lead by SHEFQET PECI who often comes to BICAJ and gives instructions. He is at the same time the deputy of the prefecture of KUKES.

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NAMES OF THE SECURITY OFFICERS IN KUKES

1. Abedin TAFAZI, Ist Class Captain from LESKOVIKU (KORCHA)
2. Sinan SINAMATI, Captain from BICAJ
3. Ismail POGA, Captain from POGAJ
4. Zylfi SALIHU, Ist Class Captain from SHTIQEN
5. Muhedin ISUFI, Ist Class Captain from BICAJ
6. Xhemal HALLACI, Sergeant Major from PERDBREGU
7. Elez RAMADANI, Sergeant Major from SHTIQEN
8. Sul HAJRULLAHU, Sergeant Major from SHTQEN
9. Tahir TAJARI, Sergeant from TROPOJA

Besides these there are also eight sub-officers of the Security in KUKES.

POLICE

1. Riza TERSOVA, Ist Class Captain from KORCHA

Besides him there are seven other graduates.

Each village has about ten arms with permit, the permit can be expanded to a maximum of forty seven weapons. The village SHTIQEN has forty seven arms with permit, given to elements from fourteen to twenty years old.

Many of our former friends, we found enemies; but many of the actual enemies have become our friends. It is very difficult to make friends!

AIR CRAFT

In Albania there are ten planes. Five are in Tirana, five in Durazzo. These are Russian airplanes with two motors. The pilots are Albanians. There is a radar station in Tirana with twelve centers who study the weather from three to five days in advance. In each branch there are three people. In each airport there is a radar station.

26th January 1952

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